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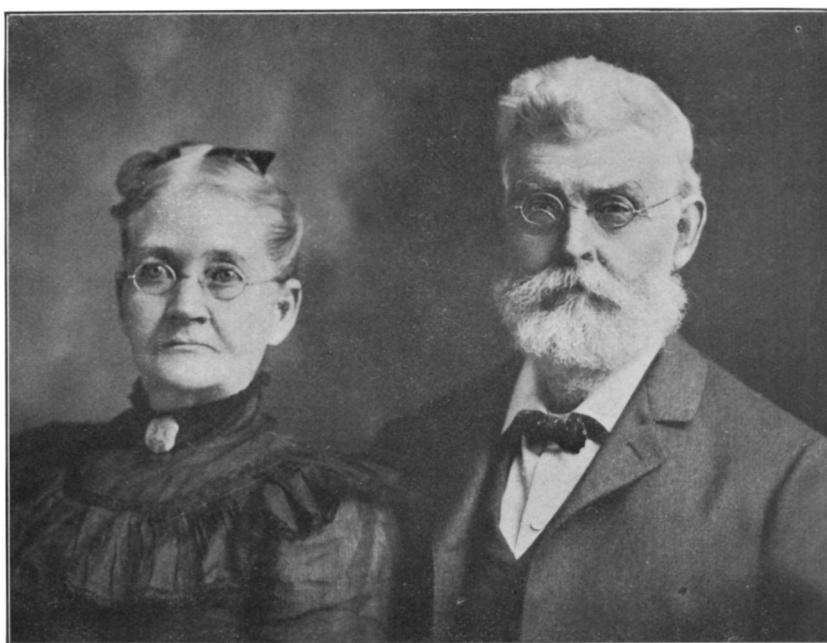
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MR. AND MRS. THOMAS K. MEANS

THOMAS KENDALL MEANS.

Thomas Kendall Means was born in Jackson County, Tennessee, April 4, 1831. Died at his home in Mulkeytown, Illinois, September 9, 1914, aged 83 years, 5 months and 5 days. At the age of three years he came with his parents to Illinois, where he lived all the rest of his life, except three years. In 1875 he left his old home and went with his family to Gadsden, Tennessee, where he leased a fruit farm and put all the children into school. In the year 1878 the family went through the terrible yellow fever epidemic that devastated and almost depopulated so many cities of the South, and in December of that year he came back to the old farm home in Illinois. In 1893, at the age of 62, he traded the old home for a new unimproved farm, where he built a beautiful home which he lived to enjoy for several years.

On October 15, 1854, he was married to Talitha, one of the daughters of John N. Mulkey, who was one of the pioneer preachers of the Christian church in Kentucky and Illinois. In 1904 they celebrated their golden wedding, and had he lived until October 15 they would have been married sixty years. To this union were born six children, five girls and one boy. One girl died at the age of six years. The others are all living, the immediate family circle not having been broken by death for fifty-one years. The daughters are all living in Illinois, the son is living in Everest, Kansas.

He was fairly well educated, besides the common schools of his time, having been a student at McKendree College, one of the early institutions of the State of Illinois. He taught in the common schools for a short time, but his life was spent on the farm, working sometimes at the carpenter's trade. He was a great reader, loved books and the daily paper, and gave his family all the educational advantages in his power.

He was a member of the Christian Church for about sixty-six years. He was never a public speaker, his work was done quietly. He was treasurer of the church the last eighteen years of his life. He was a man of the very highest ideas of honor, and his word was never questioned. The funeral rites were conducted by members of the Masonic lodge, of which order he had been a member for many years. He leaves behind him his life-long companion, who is only a little younger than himself, the son and daughters above mentioned, twenty-one grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The children of Mr. Means are: H. M. Means of Everest, Kansas; Mrs. Lily Mulkey, Decatur, Illinois; Mrs. Mary Goodwin, Maroa, Illinois; Mrs. Orbin Cook, Mulkeytown, Illinois; Mrs. Lough Snyder, Mulkeytown, Illinois. Mr. Means was during the last years of his life a member of the Illinois State Historical Society. He took great pleasure in the Society's publications, especially the Journal, and his kind letters of appreciation were a real help and encouragement to the secretary of the Society. He was a good man and a useful citizen.